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Message Text

SECRET

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42
ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 NSC-05 NSCE-00 AF-04 SP-02

PM-03 DODE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 L-01 /049 W
---------- 000914
R 171955Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2409
INFO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY CARACAS

S E C R E T GEORGETOWN 0334

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MOPS, CU, AO, TD
SUBJECT: CUBAN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA

REF: PORT OF SPAIN 0376

1. THE QUESTIONOF RACIAL COMPOSITION OF CUBAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IN ANGOLA WHICH WAS RAISED BY PRIME MINISTER ERIC WILLIAMS AS REPORTED REFTEL HAS COME UP FREQUENTLY IN MY CONVERSATIONS WITH GUYANA FONMIN FRED WILLS. FORMER GUYANESE HIGH COMMISSION IN ZAMBIA, WILLS HAS INDEPENDENT SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON WHAT HAS BEENHAPPENING IN ANGOLA. ONE OF HIS CONSTANT THEMES INDISCUSSING CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA HAS BEEN THE ASSERTION THAT THE CUBAN TROOPS FIGHTING THERE ARE AT LEAST 90 PERCENT BLACK.

2. IN LONG DISCUSSION I HAD WITH HIM ON A NUMBER OF TOPICS FEB 16, WILLS REPEATED THIS ASSERTION AND SAID THAT THE PREDOMINATELY BLACK MAKE UP OF THE CUBAN EXPDITIONARY FORCE HAD ON THE ONE HAND MADE A POWERFULLY POSITIVE IMPRESSION ON MOST GUYANESE AND AFRICANS, INCLUDING ESPECIALLY POLITICAL LEADERS IN HIS OWN PARTY. ON THE OTHER HAND, AS HE REMARKED AGAIN YESTERDAY, CASTRO WOULD NEVER HAVE DARED TO SEND A EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
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COMPOSED PREDOMINATELY OF WHITES SINCE, AS WILLS PUT IT,

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QUOTE ANY SUBSTANTIAL WHITE CUBAN CASUALTIES WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE
TO CUBAN PEOPLE UNQUOTE.
KREBS

SECRET

NNN

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